

WEATHER

&

CROPS

Week of: Sept 6 - 12, 2004

Number: 28

Released: September 13, 2004

CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

Remnants from Hurricane Frances passed through the State this week. Dry conditions that developed over the western side of the State, prior to Frances, were quenched with an average of 6 inches of accumulative rain. As a whole, the State experienced an average accumulative rainfall of 3 inches, 2 inches above the norm. Temperatures for Virginia cooled slightly to an average of 71 degrees; this is still 2 degrees above the normal temperature for this time of year. Days suitable for fieldwork were 3.8. Fieldwork has been delayed because of heavy rains; many fields were too wet for farm equipment to enter. Nevertheless, farmers are harvesting corn, tobacco, and hay as quick as possible due to the threat posed by Hurricane Ivan. Several counties experienced tornados and floods this week. There were only a few isolated reports of agriculture damage that were related with the tornados. Virginia's corn for grain has shown some excellent yields, with some farmers harvesting 170 to 200+ bushels per acre. Corn for silage is not doing as well, much of it is drying out too fast. Some of the soybean crop is maturing slower than normal and staying green longer due to the excessive soil moisture. The excessive moisture also has vegetable producers concerned over their fall crop. Other farming activities included fixing flood and wind damaged fences and buildings, selling cattle, marketing fall vegetables, and ordering winter wheat seeds.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
September 12, 2004	0	8	70	22
September 5, 2004	8	18	62	12
August 29, 2004	0	14	72	14
August 22, 2004	0	9	67	24
August 15, 2004	0	5	64	31

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pastures	0	2	20	54	24
Livestock	0	2	12	66	20
Other Hay	1	5	29	52	13
Alfalfa Hay	1	2	23	61	13
Corn for Grain	0	1	7	47	45
Soybeans	1	3	11	52	33
Burley Tobacco	0	1	26	62	11
Peanuts	0	0	18	56	26
Cotton	0	0	19	46	35
All Apples	6	2	45	46	1
Grapes	1	1	13	85	0

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT - WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average
Corn for Grain Dent	92	90	77	84
Corn for Grain Mature	74	69	49	62
Corn for Grain Harvested	24	14	14	19
Corn Silage Harvested	75	73	53	49
Soybean Dropping Leaves	18	10	6	8
Winter Wheat Seeded	6	1	1	1
Barley Seeded	6	1	2	1
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Harvested	74	65	54	57
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	56	44	44	63
Tobacco, Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	94	86	68	78
Peanuts Dug	6	5	1	1
Cotton Bolls Opening	78	68	31	36
Fall Apples Harvested	54	35	35	26
Winter Apples Harvested	6	NA	3	7

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 12, 2004							
WEATHER STATION	TEMPERATURE (degrees Fahrenheit)				PRECIPITATION (inches)		
	HI	LO	Average	Departure From Normal	TOTAL	Departure From Normal	Days
NORTHERN							
Woodstock	82	55	69	-1	6.16	5.39	4
The Plains	81	55	69	0	1.34	0.53	5
Winchester 7 SE	85	53	69	2	2.39	1.64	5
Dale Enterprise	84	53	67	-2	3.16	2.39	5
WESTERN							
Glasgow	84	59	70	2	7.24	6.54	4
Roanoke AP	83	59	71	2	5.54	4.71	4
Waynesboro	78	0	63	-4	7.13	6.36	4
Staunton AG	80	56	67	1	3.64	2.87	4
CENTRAL							
Somerset	83	57	71	1	2.37	1.53	4
Piedmont Res ST	82	59	71	2	1.78	0.94	4
Bremo Bluff	87	55	72	3	0.95	0.18	4
Richmond AP	84	63	75	4	3.39	2.62	5
EASTERN							
Eastville	85	63	74	2	1.02	0.25	4
Wallops Island	85	60	75	1	0.16	-0.59	2
Williamsburg	85	62	75	4	2.03	0.98	4
Keysville	89	60	74	4	1.55	0.71	4
SOUTHWESTERN							
Blacksburg AG	79	52	66	2	2.66	1.89	4
Wytheville	79	53	67	2	7.70	7.00	3
Saltville	83	55	69	3	2.14	1.37	2
Richlands	82	53	68	7	2.12	1.35	4
SOUTHERN							
Stuart	82	58	70	3	3.57	2.52	4
Danville AG	84	61	73	0	3.27	2.50	3
Chatham	80	56	70	2	2.16	1.32	4
Martinsville	81	55	70	2	3.48	2.57	5
SOUTHEASTERN							
Norfolk VA	86	68	77	4	0.61	-0.34	4
Oceana	86	61	76	2	0.20	-0.91	3
Emporia	84	63	75	6	1.44	0.53	4
Newport News	91	63	78	5	0.73	-0.22	5

Departure from Normal based on 1961-90 Normals.
Precipitation Days=Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.